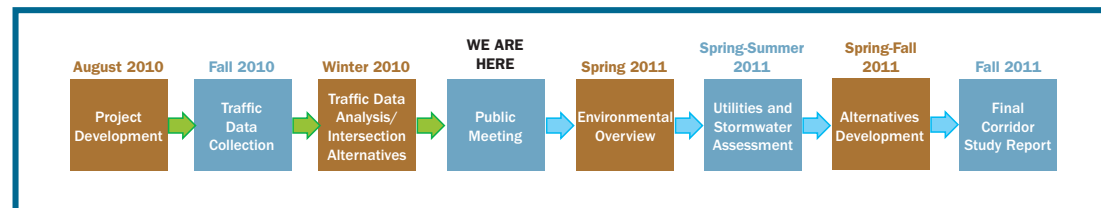


PROJECT TIMELINE



NEXT STEPS

Follow Up From Tonight's Public Meeting

- Solicit and review comments received from the public during and after tonight's meeting
- Prepare a report to summarize these comments
- Provide the City Council with an update summarizing the meeting

Alternatives Development

- Further develop conceptual alternatives that meet the goals of the study
- Provide recommendations on the preferred alternatives
- Develop conceptual cost estimates and prioritize the recommended improvements into short-term vs. long-term improvements

Corridor Study Report

- Prepare and submit the Draft Corridor Study Report to be reviewed by the City
- Address the comments received and prepare the Final Corridor Study Report to be adopted into the City's Comprehensive Plan

How to Stay Informed ...

We encourage you to stay informed and involved in the development of this important corridor study which will make recommendations to improve mobility and safety for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic along the corridor. Please do so by visiting the project website at www.ChicagoAvenue.org.



Visit us on the web!
www.ChicagoAvenue.org

The Chicago Avenue Corridor Study is being managed by the City of Harrisonburg's Department of Public Works. We invite you to let us know what you think about the project!

Contact Us:

City of Harrisonburg
Mr. Drew Williams
Assistant Director
of Public Works

320 E. Mosby Road
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
Tele: (540) 434-5928
E-mail: publicworks@harrisonburgva.gov



PUBLIC MEETING



CHICAGO AVENUE CORRIDOR STUDY

April 19, 2011

Welcome/Project Background

The City of Harrisonburg welcomes you to tonight's Public Meeting for the Chicago Avenue Corridor Study. The study area encompasses portions of Chicago Avenue, Mt. Clinton Pike, Park Road, and Parkwood Drive in the northwestern part of the City, as shown in the figure in this handout. Currently, Chicago Avenue is characterized by high traffic volumes and speeds, a lack of pedestrian and bicycle facilities, several skewed intersections with operational issues, and storm-water drainage issues. Mt. Clinton Pike is also a very busy road that has narrow lanes and a very steep hill west of Park Road. The corridor is primarily residential; however there is an elementary school at the southern end of the corridor, a supermarket in the midsection, institutional uses (EMU and EMHS) at the northern end of the corridor, and several small businesses scattered along the corridor. The City has long recognized the need to plan ahead for the future traffic operations in the area. In August 2010, the City of Harrisonburg selected the firm of McCormick Taylor, Inc. to lead the study for the corridor.



Purpose of Tonight's Meeting

The purpose of tonight's Public Meeting is to provide the public an opportunity to offer comments, and submit written materials or sketches concerning the Chicago Avenue corridor. At tonight's meeting you will have a chance to review the results of the study to date, provide input on the corridor and various conceptual alternative scenarios presented, learn about the project schedule, and learn of opportunities for additional public input. We welcome your comments and encourage you to fill out the comment form you receive here tonight and leave it in the designated comment box.



INFORMATION STATIONS

Station 1: Welcome / Sign-in

Upon signing-in you will be given an informational handout that contains much of the information presented at this meeting. You will also receive a comment form to provide your feedback to the project team.

Station 2: Traffic Data Analysis

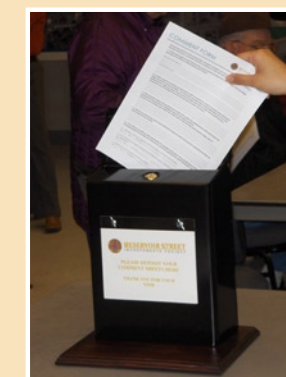
Here you will be able to review the various components of the corridor study as related to traffic data analysis and planning. Crash history, existing traffic data, and future growth will be presented in order to understand the purpose behind the corridor study.

Station 3: Potential Improvements

Important information about potential improvements to the corridor will be presented at this station. Displayed information will include: Mapping of the Corridor, Potential Typical Sections, and Potential Intersection Concepts.

Station 4: Comment Area

Tables and chairs will be provided for you to complete the comment form you received at the Sign-In table upon arrival. Completed comment forms may be deposited in the box provided in this area, or they may also be mailed at your convenience (post-marked not later than May 20, 2011).



Project Goals / What Will Be Studied?

The goal of this project is to promote a better quality of life to the residents within the study area. Ultimately, this project will result in a Corridor Study Report which will serve as a blueprint to guide future improvements to the corridor. The report will include a series of short-term and long-term recommendations. To accomplish this the goals of the study are:

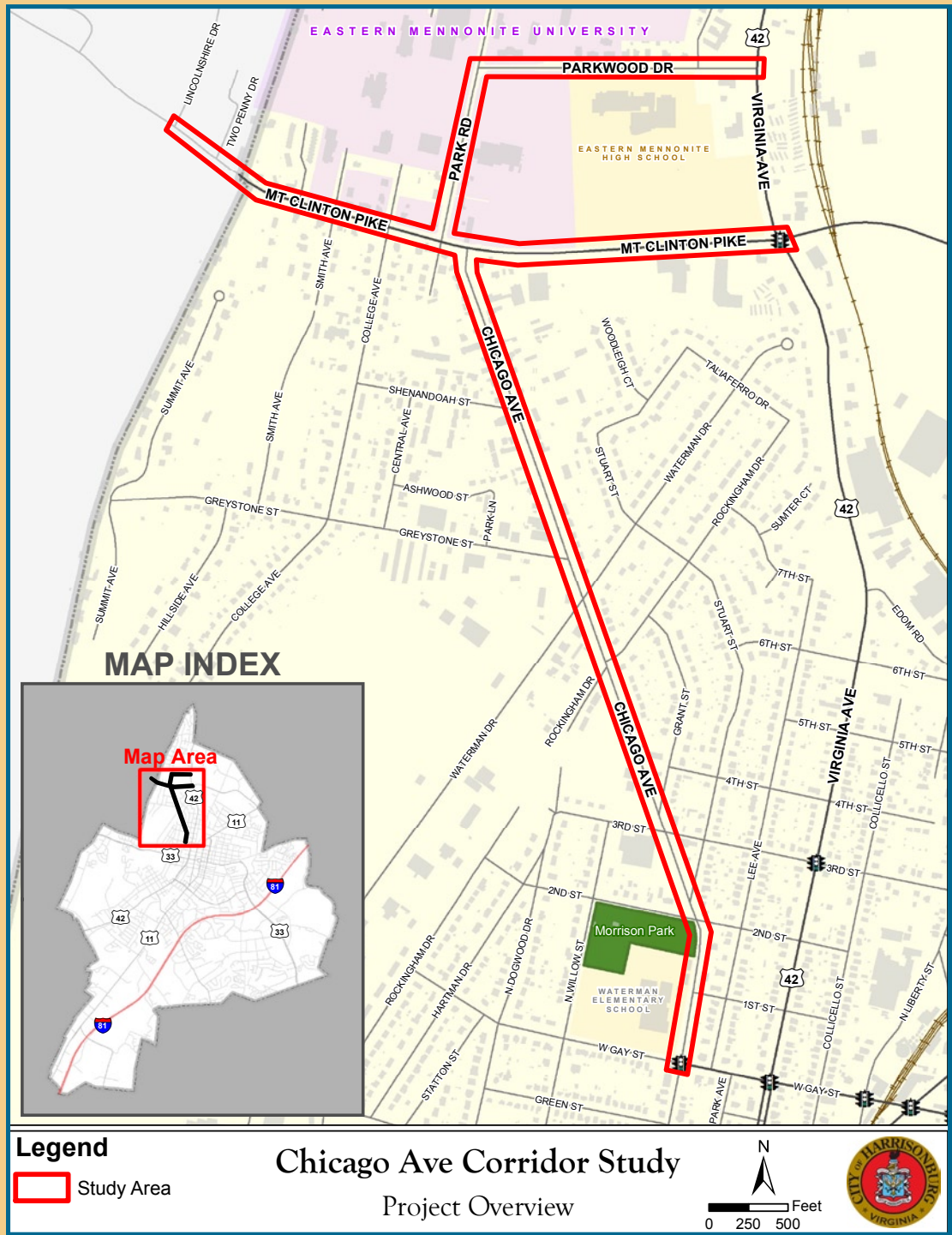
- Find ways to better accommodate bicycles and pedestrians by applying the recommendations of the City's Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
- Address the high speeds along the corridor
- Address traffic operational issues at Waterman Drive and Chicago Avenue
- Mitigate or eliminate geometric deficiencies, such as unprotected utility poles in close proximity to the travel lanes on Chicago Avenue and a hill crest with poor sight distance on Mt. Clinton Pike
- Explore ways to reconfigure entrances for businesses that have multiple closely-spaced entrances or poorly defined entrances
- Accommodate future growth and expected future traffic volumes
- Accommodate and encourage usage of Harrisonburg Department of Public Transit (HDPT) buses
- Mitigate the lack of adequate stormwater drainage
- Provide for a future corridor that is attractive and fits within the character of the community
- Be in harmony with the long-term plans for the numerous important institutions within the corridor, such as Eastern Mennonite University.

Project Study Area

The Chicago Avenue Corridor Study includes the following study area:

- Chicago Avenue from Gay Street to Mt. Clinton Pike
- Mt. Clinton Pike from Lincolnshire Drive, just beyond the City line, to Virginia Avenue / VA Route 42
- Park Road through the campus of Eastern Mennonite University (EMU)
- Parkwood Drive through the campus of Eastern Mennonite High School (EMHS)

PROJECT AREA MAP



Traffic Data

The existing average daily volume of traffic on Chicago Avenue varies from 3,600 to 5,700 and the average daily volume of traffic on Mt. Clinton Pike varies from 5,800 to 9,000. The study team will consider low-growth and high-growth scenarios when projecting future traffic volumes for the corridor.

Right of Way – Property Impacts

Any widening of the study roads or intersection improvements will likely require Right of Way from the adjoining properties. At this time, no improvement alternatives have been selected. Once the Corridor Study is completed, the City will determine how to proceed with the recommended improvements. During that process, every attempt will be made to minimize the amount of property impacts. For properties where Right of Way is required, the City will closely coordinate with those property owners.

Environmental Impacts

As a part of this study, the City will be assembling data on existing natural and cultural resources within the study area such as wetlands, threatened & endangered species, and historic or archaeological resources.

Potential Alternatives for the Future

Potential short-term Improvements

- Roadway striping improvements
- Isolated curb and gutter improvements
- Access management improvements
- Incorporate features from the City Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan

Potential long-term Improvements

- Intersection improvements at:
 - Chicago Avenue & Waterman Drive
 - Chicago Avenue & Mount Clinton Pike & Park Road
 - Park Road & Parkwood Drive
 - Mount Clinton Pike & Virginia Avenue
- Roadway lane re-configuration and/or widening along Chicago Ave.
- Median installation and roadway widening along Mount Clinton Pike
- Roadway widening along Parkwood Road
- Stormwater management facilities